

Numbers 4:32

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the pillars of the court round about, and their sockets, and their pins, and their cords, with all their instruments, and with all their service: and by name ye shall reckon the instruments of the charge of their burden.

Analysis

The comprehensive list—bars, pillars, sockets, and all instruments—shows that the Merarites bore responsibility for every component of the tabernacle's framework. The specific mention of 'all their instruments' indicates that even the tools for assembly were consecrated for this purpose. This reflects the Reformed understanding that all of life is to be lived coram Deo (before the face of God), with even our tools and methods dedicated to His service.

Historical Context

The bars held the boards together, the pillars supported the courtyard hangings, and the sockets provided the foundation. Each element was precisely crafted according to the pattern God showed Moses on the mountain, ensuring the tabernacle's structure matched its heavenly archetype.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. How does the consecration of even tools and instruments inform our approach to work and daily life?
2. What does the precision of the tabernacle's framework teach about God's attention to detail?
3. In what ways should our methods and means reflect our commitment to God's glory?

Interlinear Text

וְעַמּוֹדִי	רֹקְפָּצָר	בָּבִבָּשָׂר	מִאַזְבִּינָה	מִיְתְּדִקָּמָם
And the pillars	of the court	round about	and their sockets	and their pins
H5982	H2691	H5439	H134	H3489
לְכָל	לְכָל	כָּל	לְכָל	עֲבֹדָת
וּמִיְתְּרִיחָה	וּמִיְתְּרִיחָה	וּמִיְתְּרִיחָה	וּמִיְתְּרִיחָה	מִתְּבִדֵּת
and their cords	H3605	the instruments	H3605	and with all their service
H4340		H3627		H5656
וּבְשָׁמָן	תִּפְקֹד	אֶת	כָּל	מִשְׁאָם:
and by name	ye shall reckon	H853	the instruments	מִשְׁמָתָרָת
H8034	H6485		H3627	of the charge
				H4853

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 38:21 (Parallel theme): This is the sum of the tabernacle, even of the tabernacle of testimony, as it was counted, according to the commandment of Moses, for the service of the Levites, by the hand of Ithamar, son to Aaron the priest.